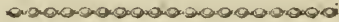




*Eucalyptus robusta.*

## EUCALYPTUS robusta.

*Brown Gum Tree, or New Holland Mahogany.*



## ICOSANDRIA MONOGYNIA.

GEN. CHAR. *Cal.* superus, persistens, truncatus, ante anthesin tectus *operculo* integerrimo, deciduo. *Cor.* nulla. *Capsf.* quadrilocularis, apice dehiscens, polysperma.

*Cal.* superior, permanent, truncated, covered before flowering with an entire *lid*, soon falling off. *Cor.* none. *Capsf.* of 4 cells, opening at the top, containing many *seeds*.

SPEC. CHAR. *E.* operculo conico medio contracto, umbellis lateralibus terminalibusque; pedunculis pedicellisque compressis.

Lid conical, contracted in the middle. Umbels lateral and terminal: general and partial flower-stalks compressed.

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THE genus of *Eucalyptus*, established by the celebrated French botanist M. L'Heritier, of whose fate amid the present dreadful convulsions of his country we have

for some time been ignorant, was first published in the *Hortus Kewensis*, vol. 2. 157. The original species there mentioned is named *obliqua*, and a figure of it is given in M. L'Heritier's *Sertum Anglicum*, tab. 20; but the description has not yet appeared. Having lately received specimens from New South Wales of five more very distinct species, we shall now attempt to characterize them, first describing more fully that exhibited in our plate.

*Eucalyptus robusta* is one of the largest and loftiest of trees, frequently 100 feet in height; its wood hard, heavy and strong, of a reddish colour, and abounding with resin. *Branches* round below, covered with smooth bark, very angular towards the extremity. *Leaves* alternate, on footstalks, firm, smooth, with a strong rib and fine parallel veins, ovate, pointed, entire, generally oblique, and often a little unequal at the base, but not universally so. *Stipule* none. *Umbels* on flower-stalks, frequently from the axillæ of the leaves, and solitary, sometimes two or more together, forming a sort of alternate *racemus*, and sometimes such *racemi* terminate the branches. *Bractææ* none. *General flower-stalk* an inch or more in length, compressed, two-edged, dilated upwards; *partial ones* about eight or ten together, nearly of the same form, but much shorter, single-flowered, dilated into the base of the calyx. *Flowers* yellowish, occasionally with a red tinge. *Calyx* obconical, sometimes round, often two- or even four-edged, entire; *lid* rather more than equal to it in length, swelling above the base, then suddenly con-



tracted, and terminating in a blunt, slightly curved, conical point. When the lid falls off, it discloses numerous *stamina*, which soon spread very wide. The *style* stands on four cross ribs in the centre of the flower, which crown the germen; it is club-shaped, compressed or angular; *stigma* simple; *germen* in the bottom of the calyx. We have not seen the fruit ripe. Every part of this plant, and indeed of every other *Eucalyptus* we have examined, is void of all pubescence. This is not so highly aromatic as some other species, though very perceptibly so when rubbed, and it is likewise astringent and acrid. Its resin is an inferior sort of red gum, of a brown hue. The size and strength of the tree, like that of the European *Quercus Robur*, seem peculiarly to justify the name *robusta*.

#### EXPLANATION OF TAB. XIII.

- I. 1. A young flower. 2. Calyx. 3. Lid. 4. Stamina not full grown. 5. A complete stamen. 6. Style.

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#### CHARACTERS OF SOME OTHER SPECIES.

2. *E. tereticornis*, operculo conico tereti lævissimo calyce triplo longiori, umbellis lateralibus folitariis.  
Lid conical, round, very smooth, thrice as long as the calyx. Umbels lateral, folitary.

The *lid* of this species is remarkably smooth and polished, not wrinkled even in the dry specimen; it often breaks off a little above the base, leaving its thin lower part like a loose ring round the *calyx*. The *leaves* are lanceolate.

3. *E. capitellata*, operculo conico calyceque anguloso subancipiti, capitulis lateralibus pedunculatis foliariis.

Lid conical, and, as well as the calyx, angular, and somewhat two-edged. Heads of flowers lateral, solitary, on flower-stalks.

The *leaves* are ovato-lanceolate, firm, astringent, but not very aromatic. We have seen no other species in which the *flowers* stand in little dense heads, each flower not being pedicellated so as to form an umbel. The *lid* is about as long as the *calyx*. *Flower-stalk* compressed, always solitary and simple.

The fruit of this species, standing on part of a branch whose leaves are fallen off, is figured in Mr. White's *Voyage*, page 226, along with the leaves of the next species.

4. *E. piperita*, operculo hemisphærico mucronulato, umbellis lateralibus subpaniculatis solitariisve; pedunculis compressis, ramulis angulatis.

Lid hemispherical, with a little point. Umbels lateral, somewhat paniculated, or solitary; flower-stalks compressed. Young branches angular.

SYN. *E. piperita*, *White's Voy.* p. 226, figure of the leaves only.

A fine essential oil, much like that of Peppermint, is obtained from this species, and every part of the dried plant exhales the same odour when rubbed.—We are now convinced this is distinct from the following, having compared the flowers of both. At the same time we have observed the minute white spots on the leaves (*White's Voy.* 228.) in *E. piperita*, as well as in the other.

5. *E. obliqua*, operculo hemisphærico mucronulato, umbellis lateralibus solitariis; pedunculis ramulisque teretibus.

Lid hemispherical, with a little point. Umbels lateral, solitary: flower-stalks and young branches round.

SYN. *E. obliqua*, *Ait. Hort. Kew.* v. 2. 157. *L'Herit. Sert. Angl. t.* 20.

From the only specimen we have seen of this, which is in Sir Joseph Banks's herbarium, it appears the *branches* are all round to the very top. *General flower-stalks* round, the *partial ones* only slightly angular, not compressed. *Bark* rough from the scaling off of the cuticle, but this may be an unnatural appearance. *Leaves* ovato-lanceolate, aromatic, but without the flavour of peppermint.

6. *E. corymbosa*, operculo hemisphærico mucronulato, umbellis corymbofo-paniculatis terminalibus.

Lid hemispherical, with a little point. Umbels panicled in a sort of terminal corymbus.

This, when in flower, is the most magnificent of its genus. The *leaves* are lanceolate, astringent and acrid, but scarcely at all aromatic. *Flower-stalks* all compressed. *Lid* somewhat membranous.

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All the species are destitute of hairiness or pubescence, the *leaves* simple, lanceolate, or ovato-lanceolate, pointed, entire, most frequently oblique, and often unequal at the base, on angular *footstalks*, without *stipulae*. *Stamina* very numerous. *Style* and *stigma* simple.

There seems to be another species in the gardens, with narrow leaves, the young ones of a rich purple, but its flowers are as yet unknown.